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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Technology Center 2100

Applicant : Masanori NANBU et al.

Group Art Unit: 2163

Serial No : 09/720,250 (National Stage of PCT/JP99/03802)

Examiner:

Filed : January 8, 2001

For : MARKETING SUPPORTING SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 1.97-1.98,
Applicants hereby call the following information to the Examiner's attention:

Applicants submit herewith a copy of an International Search Report from the
Japanese Patent Office dated January 5, 2000, with respect to International Application No.
PCT/JP99/03802 filed July 14, 1999, in which the Japanese Patent Examiner cited the
following documents:

Japanese published patent application No. 05-334316 to KOICHI, published on
December 17, 1993, was cited as an "Y" category document with respect to claims 1-4, and
42. The Examiner indicated the full text and Figures 1 to 3 as being relevant;

Japanese published patent application No. 05-165853 to TSUYAMA et al., published
on July 2, 1993, was cited as an "Y" category document with respect to claims 5-19, and 42.

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The Examiner indicated the full text and Figures 1 to 48 as being relevant;

Japanese published patent application No. 09-192755 to ITO, published on July 29, 1997, was cited as an "Y" category document with respect to claims 5-19, and 42. The Examiner indicated the full text and Figures 1 to 3 as being relevant;

Japanese published patent application No. 06-044280 to ISHIDA et al., published on February 18, 1994, was cited as an "Y" category document with respect to claims 20-22 and 42, and was cited as an "X" category document with respect to claims 37-41. The Examiner indicated the full text and Figures 1 to 30 as being relevant;

Japanese published patent application No. 09-136324 to SEKITO et al., published on May 27, 1997, was cited as an "Y" category document with respect to claims 20-22 and 42, and as an "X" category document with respect to claims 23-30. The Examiner indicated the full text and Figures 1 to 3 as being relevant;

Japanese published patent application No. 08-155560 to IMAZU, published on June 18, 1996, was cited as an "Y" category document with respect to claims 31-36 and 42. The Examiner indicated the full text and Figure 1 as being relevant;

Japanese published patent application 1-216746A to Hitachi, Ltd., published August 30, 1989, and corresponding to U.S. Patent No. 4,954,820 to KOHNO et al., issued September 4, 1990, and entitled "Transmitter for Radio Control System", was cited as an "Y" category document with respect to claims 31-36 and 42. The Examiner indicated the full text and Figures 1 to 7 as being relevant; and

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An article by MUTOU, et al., published December 1, 1990, Vol. 5, No. 13, Industrial Daily News Co., Ltd. The Examiner indicated pages 93 to 100 as being relevant. An English translation of this article will be submitted as soon as available.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents. Copies of each of the above-noted patent documents, together with a copy of a PTO-1449 Form listing these documents are included for that purpose. English language abstracts accompany each Japanese published patent application noted above. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 form to confirm consideration of these documents and to return a copy of the PTO-1449 form to the Applicants together with the next Official Action in the present application.

Applicant has also enclosed a copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report, as well as an English translation.

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If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned
at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Masanori NANBU et al.

Will. E. Lynde Reg. No.
Bruce H. Bernstein 41,568
Reg. No. 29,027

January 3, 2001
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1941 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191